

REMARKS

Summary of Office Action

Claims 1-6, 8, 10-33, 37, 39-58, 63, 65-68, and 70-71 were pending in the above-identified patent application.

Claims 1-6, 33, 37, 39-43, and 45-58 were allowed.

The Examiner rejected claims 8, 44, 63, and 65-67 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Errichiello U.S. Patent No. 4,294,469.

Each of claims 10-32, 68, 70, and 71 was objected to as depending from a rejected base claim. However, allowable subject matter was indicated.

Claims 8 and 71 were objected to because of certain enumerated informalities.

Applicants' Reply

Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of claims 1-6, 33, 37, 39-43, and 45-58, and the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 10-32, 68, 70, and 71. The Examiner's objections and rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants have amended claims 8, 11, 44, 68 and 71, have added new dependent claims 72-79, and have cancelled claims 10 and 70 without prejudice, in order to more particularly define the invention.

Applicants have amended independent claims 8 and 44 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of dependent claims 10 and 70, respectively. Applicants have cancelled claims 10 and 70 without prejudice to their subject matter, which remains in claims 8 and 44. Claim 11 has been amended to reflect the amendment of claim 8.

Applicants have also rewritten allowable but objected-to claims 68 and 71 in independent form.

Applicants have added new dependent claims 72-75 and 76-79, which are parallel to dependent claims 63 and 65-67 but depend from newly-independent claims 71 and 68, respectively.

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 8, 44, 68, and 71, and all claims dependent therefrom, are patentable.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, applicants respectfully submit that this application, as amended, is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and prompt allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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